(b) Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Kindly amend claim 1 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims that are or were in the application is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A toner comprising: toner particles containing at least a colorant, a release agent, and a polar resin, and an inorganic fine powder,

wherein[[;]] said polar resin contains (a) at least 3% by weight of said polar resin of a polyester resin unit obtained by carrying out polymerization in the presence of [[a]] from 0.01% by weight to 2% by weight titanium chelate compound as a catalyst, and (b) has an acid value of from 3 mg×KOH/g to 35 mg×KOH/g;

said toner particles are obtained by carrying out granulation in an aqueous medium; [[and]]

said toner has a weight average particle diameter of from 4 μm to 10 μm [[.]]; and

wherein in said titanium chelate compound, its chelating compound is a diol, a dicarboxylic acid or an oxycarboxylic acid.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein said titanium chelate compound is a compound represented by any of the following Formulas (I) to (VIII), or a hydrate thereof:

Formula (I)

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q & Q & Q \\ R_1 & Q & R_1 \end{pmatrix}^{2} \cdot mM^{n+1}$$

wherein R₁'s each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2; when n is 1, M representing represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion;

Formula (II)

wherein R₂'s each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2; when n is 1, M representing represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion;

Formula (III)

wherein M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2; when n is 1, M representing represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion; Formula (IV)

wherein R₃'s each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2; when n is 1, M representing represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion;

Formula (V)

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & O & O \\ |I| & O \\ |I|^{2+} & O \end{pmatrix} R_4 \qquad \cdot \quad mM^{n+}$$

wherein R₄'s each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2, and, when n is 1, M represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion;

Formula (VI)

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & O & O & C \\ C & O & O & C \\ C & Ti^{24} & R_{5} \\ C & O & O & C \\ 0 & O & O \end{pmatrix} \cdot mM^{n+}$$

wherein R_5 's each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2, and, when n is 1, M represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion;

Formula (VII)

wherein M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2, and, when n is 1, M represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion; and Formula (VIII)

$$\begin{pmatrix} O & O & O \\ C & O & O \\ A_6 & Ti^{2+} & A_6 \\ O & O & O \\ O & O \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathbf{m} \mathbf{M}^{n+}$$

wherein R_6 's each represent an alkylene group or alkenylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent; and M represents a counter cation, m represents the number of the cation and n represents a valence number of the cation, where n is 2 when m is 1 and n is 1 when m is 2, and, when n is 1, M represents a hydrogen ion, an alkali metal ion, an ammonium ion or an organoammonium ion, and when n is 2, an alkaline earth metal ion.

- 4. (Original) The toner according to claim 3, wherein said titanium chelate compound is a compound represented by any of the above Formulas (II), (III), (VI) and (VII), or a hydrate thereof.
- 5. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein in a water/methanol wettability test of said toner particles and said toner, a methanol per cent

- 6 -

by weight of each of them at the time a transmittance becomes 50% of an initial value satisfies the following expressions:

$$10 \leq TA \leq 70;$$

$$30 \le TB \le 90$$
; and

$$0 \le TB - TA \le 60$$

where TA is the methanol per cent by weight of the toner particles, and TB is the methanol per cent by weight of the toner.

- 6. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein in an endothermic curve of said toner measured by differential thermal analysis, a peak temperature of a maximum endothermic peak in a range from 30°C to 200°C is in a range from 50°C to 120°C.
- 7. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, which contains a salicylic acid metal compound as a charge control agent.
- 8. (Original) The toner according to claim 7, wherein a metal of said salicylic acid metal compound used as a charge control agent is aluminum or zirconium.
- 9. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein said polar resin has a hydroxyl value of 5 to 40 mg×KOH/g.

10. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein said toner particles are particles produced by dispersing in an aqueous medium a polymerizable monomer composition which contains at least a polymerizable monomer, the colorant, the polar resin, the release agent, a charge control agent and a polymerization initiator, granulating the polymerizable monomer composition, and polymerizing the polymerizable monomer.